

*Justice Charles Johnson*

*Supreme Court Rules Committee*

*c/o Clerk of the Supreme Court*

*P.O. Box 40929*

*Olympia, WA 98504-0929*

*RE: Proposed JuCR 1.6 – Physical Restraints in the Courtroom*

*Dear Justice Johnson and Members of the Rules Committee:*

My name is Miguel Ramos. I am currently incarcerated at Green Hill School in Chehalis, Washington. Through my experiences of going to court, I have been shackled every time. Being shackled made me feel degraded and like a criminal even though I hadn't been proven guilty yet. It made me feel embarrassed. I also was very uncomfortable sitting in the courtroom because the shackles were usually too tight. In my opinion, when people are going through the court process, especially to trial, they should not be shackled. When a person has shackles on it is easy to assume they are guilty. That is not good for others to have that perception of you, especially when your freedom is basically in another person's hands, the judge and jury.

Sincerely,

Miguel Ramos